SEQ ID NO: 13 in the 3' terminal region, and is capable of causing duplication of the target sequence TA; and

7. A MITE-like element comprising the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO 2.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 11, as follows:

The IS2 element of the present invention is structurally characterized by containing, in the nucleotide sequence thereof, at least one nucleotide sequence represented by the formula (1): XttgcaaY (wherein X represents g or t and Y represents a or c) (SEQ ID NO: 4 to 7) or the formula (2): Zatgcaa (wherein Z represents t or a) (SEQ ID NO: 8 to 9) in a continuously or discontinuously repeated manner.

Please amend the section beginning on page 22, line 21, as follows:

As specific examples of the IS2 element according to the present invention, there may be mentioned the ones which have, as the terminal inverted repeat sequences, the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO: 10 in the 5' terminal region and the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO: 11 in the 3' terminal region. As a more specific example of the IS2 element, there may be mentioned the one having the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO: 1. The IS2 element may have one or more nucleotides substituted, added or deleted in the terminal inverted repeat sequences or in the sequence occurring between said repeat sequences if the resulting modifications remain functional equivalents substantially having the function or activity of the IS2 element itself. The MITE-like element of the present invention includes such functional equivalents as well.

As preferred functional equivalents, there may be mentioned the ones substantially having the function or activity of the IS2 element having the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO: 1, and causing target duplication of (A)nG(A)n [n being an integer not less than 1] at the site of insertion and capable of hybridizing with the above IS2 element under stringent conditions. As "stringent conditions", there may be mentioned the conditions in 1 × SSC plus 0.1% (w/w) SDS at 50°C or above over a period of 1 hour. As the functional equivalents, there may be mentioned more specifically the ones not less than 70%, preferably not less than 85%, more preferably not less than 90%, still more preferably not less than 95% homologous in nucleotide sequence with the IS2 element shown under SEQ ID NO: 1.

2. IS1 element